

Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Control

General capacity building and technical assistance; grants for the development of local programs to address housing-related health hazards; demonstration projects and research, outreach, and education authority related to lead hazard control and healthy homes issues; enforcement of the Lead Safe Housing Rule and the Lead Disclosure Rule.

Nature of Program: This program addresses childhood lead-based paint poisoning and other childhood diseases associated with poor housing conditions, such as exposure to moisture, mold, poor air quality, lead paint, residential application of pesticides, the presence of allergens, vermin, dust, and other substances that contribute to asthma, and hazardous conditions that increase the risk of injury. It promotes preventive measures to correct multiple safety and health hazards in the home environment through several components:

- Authority to perform research and technical studies, including in cooperation with other federal agencies, to establish standards for such matters as performance of detection, mitigation and cleanup for lead-based paint and other residential health and safety hazards; to evaluate the effectiveness of methods and strategies for hazard evaluation and reduction; to gain knowledge to improve the cost-effectiveness and efficacy of evaluation and control; and to help communities use this knowledge to reduce these hazards in their housing.
- Grants to state and local governments and private organizations to evaluate and reduce lead-based paint hazards in privately owned low-income housing; and grants to state and local governments and private organizations to develop methods to assess and reduce additional housing-related hazards with particular focus on low-income housing.
- Establishment of procedures to evaluate and reduce lead-based paint hazards in federally owned housing and housing receiving federal assistance, including public housing.
- Oversight of the Lead Safe Home Rule (24 CFR 35, subparts B-R) for all HUD programs, and enforcement of the Rule for Multifamily Housing programs, the Single Family Asset Management program, and PIH programs.
- Enforcement of lead-based paint and lead-based paint hazard disclosure requirements (24 CFR 35, subpart A) upon rental or sale of housing built before 1978.

Applicant Eligibility: For lead hazard control grant programs, state, tribal, and local governments are eligible; for other programs, these government and nonprofit entities, for-profit entities that waive their fees, and universities are eligible.

Legal Authority: Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. 4821 et seq.); Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992 (Title X of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992; 42 U.S.C. 4851 et seq.); Sections 501 and 502 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1970 (12 U.S.C. 1701z-1 and 1701z-2). Regulations are at 24 CFR part 35.

Information Sources: Director of the Office of Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Control, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Washington, DC 20410.
On the Web: www.hud.gov/offices/lead/index.cfm

Current Status: Active.